## **REMARKS**

Claims 1-12 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the specification is amended. Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted.

James A. Oliff

Registration No. 27,075

John W. Fitzpatrick Registration No. 41,018

JAO:JWF/ldg

Date: December 31, 2003

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. Box 19928 Alexandria, Virginia 22320 Telephone: (703) 836-6400 DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE
AUTHORIZATION
Please grant any extension
necessary for entry;
Charge any fee due to our
Deposit Account No. 15-0461